

In the Claims:

1        1. [Original] A method of programming a non-volatile memory unit in  
2 a hard copy output engine comprising:

3              determining a geographical area within which the hard copy output engine  
4 is to be deployed;

5              determining an electronic address for a consumables supplier appropriate  
6 to the geographical area; and

7              programming the electronic address into the non-volatile memory.

1        2. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein determining an electronic  
2 address comprises determining a universal resource locator for an original  
3 equipment manufacturer.

1        3. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein determining an electronic  
2 address comprises determining a universal resource locator for a reseller of  
3 consumable supplies associated with the hard copy output engine.

1        4. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising programming  
2 the non-volatile memory with product descriptors for consumable supplies  
3 associated with the hard copy output engine.

1        5. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2              determining that the electronic address for the consumables supplier is  
3 obsolete;

4              determining a revised electronic address for the consumables supplier  
5 appropriate to the geographical area; and

6              re-programming the non-volatile memory with the revised electronic  
7 address to replace the obsolete electronic address.

1        6. [Original] The method of claim 1, wherein the hard copy output  
2 engine is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers  
3 and printers.

1        7. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein determining an  
2 electronic address comprises determining a universal resource locator for a  
3 supplier chosen from a group consisting of: an original equipment manufacturer,  
4 a reseller or a supplier of office supplies including hard copy output engine  
5 consumables.

1        8. [Currently Amended] A method of obtaining consumable supplies for a  
2 hard copy output engine comprising:

3              determining that an amount of consumable for the hard copy output  
4 engine is less than a threshold amount;

5              extracting an electronic address for a vendor of the consumable from a  
6 non-volatile memory included in the hard copy output engine; and

7              initiating communication with the vendor using the electronic address;  
8 and

9              wherein the initiating comprises directly initiating communication with the  
10 vendor from the hard copy output engine.

1        9. [Original] The method of claim 8, wherein extracting an electronic  
2 address comprises extracting a universal resource locator.

1        10. [Original] The method of claim 8, wherein extracting an electronic  
2 address comprises extracting a universal resource locator for a vendor of  
3 consumables appropriate to a geographical area within which the hard copy  
4 output engine is deployed.

1        11. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 8, wherein initiating  
2 communication includes transmitting an electronic message ordering from the  
3 hard copy output engine which orders a predetermined quantity of the  
4 consumable determined to be present in an amount less than the threshold  
5 amount.

1           12. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 8, wherein  
2 determining comprises determining using processing circuitry in response to a  
3 sensor in the hard copy output engine sensing that an amount of the  
4 consumable is less than the threshold amount.

1           13. [Original] The method of claim 8, wherein initiating communication  
2 comprises initiating a servlet.

1           14. [Original] The method of claim 8, wherein the hard copy output  
2 engine is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers  
3 and printers.

1           15. [Original] A computer implemented control system for a hard copy  
2 output engine, the system comprising:

3                 non-volatile memory included in the hard copy output engine and  
4 configured to store data representing an electronic address for a supplier of  
5 consumables for the hard copy output engine; and

6                 processing circuitry configured to:

7                     determine that an amount of a consumable for the hard copy  
8 output engine is less than a threshold amount;

9                     extract the electronic address from the non-volatile memory; and

10                  initiate communication with the supplier using the electronic  
11 address.

1           16. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system  
2 of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to extract an electronic address  
3 comprises a processor configured to extract a universal resource locator for a  
4 supplier of consumables appropriate to a geographic area within which the hard  
5 copy output engine is deployed.

1        17. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the processor configured to initiate communication includes a processor  
3 configured to transmit an electronic message ordering a predetermined quantity  
4 of the consumable determined to be present in an amount less than the  
5 threshold amount.

1        18. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the processor configured to initiate communication includes a processor  
3 configured to initiate a servlet.

1        19. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the hard copy output engine is chosen from a group consisting of:  
3 facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers.

1        20. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the processor configured to extract an electronic address comprises a  
3 processor configured to extract a universal resource locator.

1        21. Cancel.

1        22. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system  
2 of claim 15, wherein the processing circuitry is included in the hard copy output  
3 engine.

1        23. [Currently Amended] A method of obtaining consumable supplies  
2 for a hard copy output engine, comprising:

3            determining a geographical area within which the hard copy output engine  
4 is to be deployed;

5            determining an electronic address for a consumables supplier appropriate  
6 to the geographical area;

7            storing the electronic address in a non-volatile memory of the hard copy  
8 output engine; and

9 proactively initiating communication with the consumables supplier from  
10 the hard copy output engine and using the stored electronic address [[if]]  
11 responsive to an amount of a consumable for the hard copy output engine [[is]]  
12 being less than a predetermined threshold.

1 24. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the  
2 determinings and the programming are performed prior to deployment of the  
3 hard copy output engine in an end user environment.

1 25. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the  
2 programming comprises programming into the non-volatile memory resident  
3 within the hard copy output engine.

1 26. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 8, further comprising:  
2 determining the electronic address corresponding to a geographical area in  
3 which the hard copy output engine will be deployed in an end user environment;  
4 and  
5 storing the electronic address within the hard copy output engine prior to  
6 deployment of the hard copy output engine.

1 27. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system  
2 of claim 15, wherein the non-volatile memory is configured to store the data  
3 representing the electronic address prior to deployment of the hard copy output  
4 engine in an end user environment.

1 28. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 23, wherein the  
2 determinings and the storing are performed prior to deployment of the hard copy  
3 output engine in an end user environment.

1 29. [New] The method of claim 8, further comprising directly sending  
2 an electronic message from the hard copy output engine to the vendor without  
3 user intervention.

1       30. [New] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the processing circuitry comprises processing circuitry of the hard copy  
3 output engine configured to communicate an electronic message from the hard  
4 copy output engine to the supplier without user intervention.

1       31. [New] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,  
2 wherein the processing circuitry comprises processing circuitry of the hard copy  
3 output engine configured to communicate an electronic message directly to the  
4 supplier.

1       32. [New] The method of claim 23, wherein the proactively initiating  
2 communication comprises sending an electronic message from the hard copy  
3 output engine to the supplier without user intervention.

1       33. [New] The method of claim 23, wherein the proactively initiating  
2 communication comprises directly communicating with the supplier using the  
3 hard copy output engine.